

## Partnerships with the Multicultural Center

Analysis by: David Colina, Cristiana Cassano, Meghan Ignac, Joëlle Joseph, Jenna Susko, and Travis Peoples

## Overview of Analysis Sequencing

Met with Christine Ballengee-Morris to define specific goals/objectives  
Decided on target departments/organizations  
Conducted interviews with the Political Science dept., FTAD, OUAB, OHFS, FCOB, and ROTC  
Sent e-mails/surveys out to student organizations that have been and could be affected by the MCC

## Overview Continued

Collected feedback  
Highlighted problems  
Evaluated problems and came up with general and department specific solutions  
Basic Themes: Outreach, Scheduling/Programming, Department Tailored Programs

## E-mail/Survey Analysis (David Colina)

Conducted surveys to see overall opinion and knowledge that student organizations have of the MCC

## Surveyed Organizations

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ▪ AIESEC                                       | ▪ National Association of Black Engineers |
| ▪ Asian Business Students                      | ▪ South Area Black Student Association    |
| ▪ Campus Crusaders                             | ▪ Office of Minority Affairs              |
| ▪ Blacks of North Campus                       | ▪ Honors and Scholars                     |
| ▪ Council for Black Students in Administration | ▪ College Democrats                       |
|  | ▪ Campus Green Party                      |

## Respondent Organizations

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| ▪ Asian Business Student Association   | ▪ College Democrats   |
| ▪ South Area Black Student Association | ▪ Campus Crusaders    |
| ▪ Office of Minority Affairs           | ▪ Honors and Scholars |
|  | ▪ AIESEC              |

## **General E-mail Responses**

- MCC has a tendency to not reach out
- Need for more participation in actual creation of events
- Lack of awareness by students and organizations of existence and mission statement
- Need for more cooperation and communication

## **Responses Continued**

- Need for more reciprocity
- New partners seem generally satisfied with the MCC, but...
- Already established organizations with diversity initiatives seem to have problems with MCC

## **Solutions**

Scheduling and Programming

## **Plan Ahead**

- Make meetings within MCC and with other groups more in advance (1YR.)
- Meet with marketing specialists
- Do another wide scale conference – reach out!

## **Outreach Solutions**

Most important objective

## **Reach Out to Others**

- Go out and get people
- Reach out at least until marketing picks up
- Follow up with organizations after events

### **Reach Out Ideas**

- Each department in MCC could look into 1 or more student organization a quarter/year
- Send generic e-mail monthly/bi-monthly to organizations on events

### **Interviews with Departments**

Outreach and Department Tailored Programs

### **Faculty and TA Development (FTAD)**

Cristiana Cassano  
With Alan Kalish

### **Issues Faced**

- Pleased with the 3-day training sessions put on by the FTAD and MCC
- FTAD is faculty oriented, need more collaboration with student groups
- Have had planning/scheduling conflicts with MCC in past
- Sees great potential for an increasingly strong relationship in the future!

### **Potential Solutions/Ideas**

- For example: host workshop with FTAD to collaborate with teachers to increase interaction in the classroom
- FTAD post MCC event dates and times
- Workshop for teachers -how to create an open and non-discriminatory atmosphere in classroom

### **Ohio Union Activities Board (OUAB)**

Meghan Ignac  
With Matt Couch

### Obstacles Faced

- Staff connections between MCC and OUAB are lacking
- Formal agreement is foreign and unnecessary to OUAB
- Only high level staff are working on the formal agreement
- Need for more sharing of information on events
- Advocacy for constituents

### Potential Problem Solvers

- Have quarterly/monthly mixers to setup and encourage interaction among staffs
- Have a mixed staff retreat instead of separate
- Collaborate with the OUAB
- Continue to have cross training workshops

### Solutions Continued

- Consider foregoing the formal contract
- If contract is essential, have open meetings where all staff members from both groups can input ideas
- When event is planned, relay to all departments through chain

## Political Science

Jenna Susko  
With Dr. Paul Beck

### Issues

- ◆ Little experience with MCC
- ◆ Enthusiastic about a relationship
- ◆ Main focus on speaking events

### Potential Ideas

- ◆ Collaborate on speaker series
- ◆ Provide speakers for relevant events
- ◆ Set up program with graduate students as speakers
- ◆ Bridge for MCC's speaker contacts

## Fisher College of Business (FCoB)

David Colina  
With Dean Josephs

## Observations

- Meetings need to be kept and participated in for MCC advisory board
- Need to tailor to specific departments
- MCC is an umbrella organization...

## Potential Solutions

- Schedule meetings more in advance and make priority (as mentioned earlier)
- Develop a mobile unit to have department-specific programs
- More internal communication

## Collaboration Possibilities

- Workshop for Fisher with different departments in MCC on how to work with people from different countries
- Have a fair at Fisher for the international business students

## Organization of Hispanic Faculty and Staff (OHFS) and Hispanic Oversight Committee (HOC)

Joëlle Joseph  
With Norm Caban and  
Jose Villa

## Barriers Faced

- > Need for more clarity in mission and more uniqueness
- > Need for greater focus on independent events
- > Differing expectations between groups (=loss of focus on MCC goals and purpose)

### Ideas For a Better Relationship

- Create program where Hispanic and American students become conversation partners
- Avoid putting MCC name on exclusively OHFS events; or attempt to help in creation of events before adding name

### Ideas Continued

- Conduct quarterly meetings with "decision makers" = common goals and mutually benefiting activities
- Keep in close contact and plan events with OHFS

### Miscellaneous (R.O.T.C. and Journalism-Communications)

- ▶ Unsuccessful interview with R.O.T.C.
- ▶ We came up with a few ideas for the J-Comm. department:
- ▶ Host writers workshop on how to write to a diverse audience
- ▶ = connection between MCC, faculty, and student organizations

### Overriding Themes

#### ■ OUTREACH

- SCHEDULING AND PROGRAMMING
- DEPARTMENT TAILORED PROGRAMS

### Final Comments

- Previous interactions with organizations have warranted **POSITIVE** feedback
- There exists a strong desire for **FUTURE** partnerships with the MCC among organizations
- There is a tremendous amount of **POTENTIAL** with the MCC and all student/academic organizations
- The MCC offers a vast number of services that many organizations are **INTERESTED**

**With PERSISTANT Time and Effort  
and Further PERSERVERANCE,  
the MCC will reach its full  
POTENTIAL!**

Questions?